



# Congressman Tim Bishop

*FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK*

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **BISHOP PRESENTS BRONZE STAR TO SHIRLEY VIETNAM VETERAN**

**Riverhead, NY** - Congressman Tim Bishop presented the Bronze Star Medal with the "V" for valor distinction to Vietnam veteran and current Army National Guardsman, Staff Sergeant Louis Mazzarella, at a ceremony on Saturday, December 2 at the Riverhead National Guard Armory. Congressman Bishop successfully petitioned the Defense Department to award Mazzarella the Bronze Star after learning of his heroics during the Vietnam War. Mazzarella is a lifelong New Yorker and is currently a resident of Shirley.

On December 2, 1969, Sergeant Louis Mazzarella, the Howitzer Section Chief at Bu Prang Special Forces Camp, and his fellow soldiers, were assaulted by heavy enemy fire. Disregarding his own safety, Sgt. Mazzarella performed heroically under intense pressure to hold his position and save the lives of fellow soldiers. However, Sgt. Mazzarella's valor went unheralded until Congressman Bishop helped him to secure the Bronze Star.

In the photo, Congressman Bishop presents Mazzarella with the Bronze Star, as members of his current unit, the 133rd Quartermaster Supply Company, look on.



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